

Out of Bondage onto Promise

Exodus 31-32

- Moses has already received the instructions for building the Tabernacle, as well instructions of who is to serve in the Tabernacle. Now God tells Moses who will be constructing the Tabernacle as well, and that He would be empowering them as to what they are to do. In all this we see God left nothing for human ingenuity to get in the way of how He wanted Israel to worship Him.

V1-18

- **V1-6** just as God specifically chose Moses and Aaron He's also chosen these craftsmen for His service, notice He says He has filled them with wisdom, understanding, knowledge, and all manner of workmanship so that they could build and complete the work to God's satisfaction. This shows that God saw this physical work in the same way as He sees our ministerial work, that In order to do it correctly for Him we have to be dependent upon the Holy Spirit's power.
- **1Cor 12:7-11** tell us w also have gifts that God wants us to use for His glory, and in this we see at least two of them mentioned Wisdom and Knowledge. Although closely related they still differ slightly as Knowledge is the ability to identify a problem based on information you've received, while wisdom is taking that same information and properly applying it to achieve the proper end
- **V7-11** God lists all the items to be built and its furnishings, **V6** and **V11** make it plain and simple concerning serving God, as the only one of significance is the Lord and not us. **A.** I chose, **B.** I placed, **C.** I command. As its God Who appoints, its God Who puts in them wisdom, and its God Who tells them exactly what to do, He takes the guess work right out of serving Him.
- **V12-18** here we see the purpose of the Sabbath > **1st** by having them surrender a day to the Lord it reminded them Who it was Who created them and thus removed any evolutionary ideas. **2nd** by obeying the Sabbath they are reminded that it was God Who delivered them out of Egypt.
- This is why the command to observe the Sabbath is not repeated anywhere else in the **NT** because it specifically spoke to Israel to protect them from false religions that surrounded them. Scriptures to study about this > **Deut 5:14-15, Col 2:16-17, Rom 14:5. V18** speaks to people who like to say the Bible is written by man, all you have to do is bring them here and show them that the Word of God was written by the finger of God, which is why man continues to rebel against it

Chapter 32

V1-14

- **V1-6** while Moses is in the clouds receiving from God the Word of God the people begin to think in the flesh and eventually act in the flesh, and we see outright rebellion. It starts with a request that should have been denied! People when rebelling against God often approach you in a seemingly reasonable way, "**hey Moses is sure taking a lot of time up there, maybe he's died**".

- Aaron as the senior member of our group can you make us up some gods to lead us since plan A has failed? Remember Aaron was on the mountain with Moses, now he has come back down to the people and that's what happens to us when we don't continue to go to the spiritual heights God has for us, we eventually come back down to the level of those who are not following the Lord closely and they influence how we think and many times what we do.
- In Ex 25 God told Moses to receive a free will offering for the Tabernacle materials, but before Moses came down to get it the people give a generous offering to the building of this idol. People are often more generous in what we give to our idols than what we give to God, folks have no problem supporting a sports team, a material desire, an educational goal, but when it comes to God and His work, here comes the doubt, the scrutiny, the I have to pray about that.
- In the end they declare **V4 "this is your god"** and Aaron tried to keep their disobedience spiritual by declaring a feast to the ungodly and immoral worship of this golden calf **V5**. Its amazing how people will disguise their own sinful desires as something that is acceptable to God, when they know that everything that their doing comes from and out of their fleshly sinful desires. Folks make no mistake about it people can make a false god out of anything including a dead pig.
- **V7-8** even in the clouds up on high, and in midst of speaking and directing Moses God still knows what disobedient man is doing below. He tells Moses to get down to the people as they have corrupted themselves, and this next phrase is so sad **"they have turned aside quickly"**. It doesn't take man long to rebel and walk away from God and His grace and mercy folks, we give ourselves too much credit about what we think we will or won't do, we are capable of any and every sin.
- **V9-10** God is upset, in fact it says **"His wrath burned hot against Israel"** wrath is only reserved for the enemies of God and not His people, so He was ready to destroy them. So He makes an amazing offer to Moses one in which most people would never turn down, if Moses would agree God says He will consume Israel and start over with Moses and make from him a great nation.
- In doing this God wasn't asking for Moses thoughts or opinions on the matter as He says **"let Me alone"** so I can do this! Stiff-necked is a phrase for stubborn farm animals like Ox or Mules, or horses, as they don't want to listen to their masters but instead do things their way, which is why they must be broken before they can become useful to the farmer.
- **V11-13** Moses response is incredible, **1st** He refused to do nothing, he could have stood back and watched God annihilate Israel, but he doesn't, **2nd** He intercedes on their behalf pleading with God not to destroy them, and it's not because they didn't deserve it folks, oh they did, **3rd** He tells God that they are His people that He brought out of Egypt, appealing on the basis of grace not merit, **4th** He appeals on the basis of God's Name and reputation, what will the Egyptians think? I don't want anyone thinking that anything was too hard for you Lord!

- **5TH** He appeals on God's goodness, remember You made a promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Who You swore on Your Name that You would make Israel a great nation. So don't let a few knuckle heads ruin that, you have to love Moses for remembering the Word, God's promises, and keeping his flesh under subjection, as he could have thought of his own self glory and taken God up on His offer. **V14** The Lord relented, of course God didn't destroy them all, but He did deal with the ones who would not repent from their sinful course of action.